

EPA issues violation notice to MBTA for idling at bus yards

On July 2, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for excessive bus idling discovered during EPA inspections last February at four MBTA bus yards.

The inspections – at bus yards in Lynn, Medford, Roxbury and the Boston Medical Center area – found numerous instances where MBTA buses were idling in violation of the state's five-minute limit. Many of the buses were found to be idling for more than an hour and, in one instance, at the Roxbury yard on Bartlett Street, a bus was observed idling for 2½ hours.

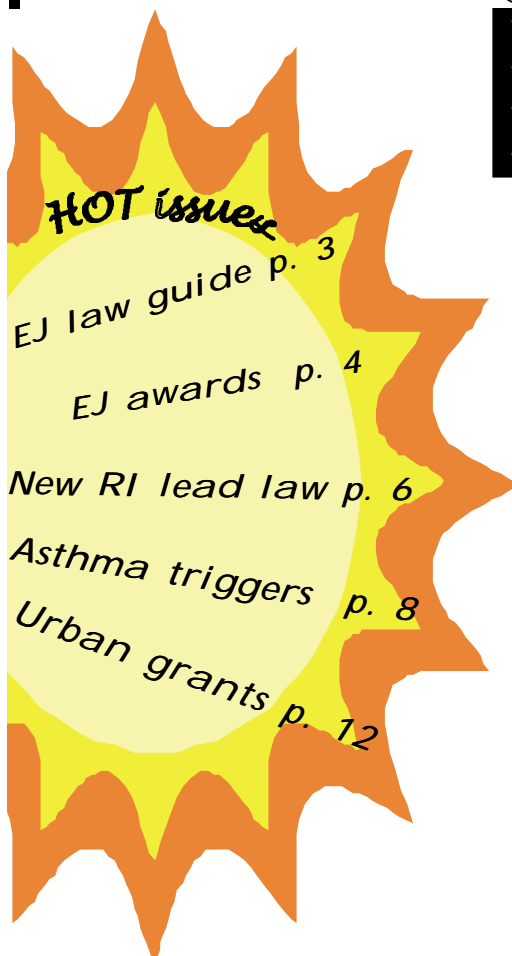
"Given the high asthma rates in Boston, it's unacceptable that diesel buses are left idling for more than an hour at a time, as we found in our MBTA inspections," said Robert W.

Varney, regional administrator of EPA's New England Office. "Excessive idling of diesel bus engines creates harmful pollution, especially for sensitive populations such as the young, elderly and asthmatics. By cutting down on idling, Boston-area residents, passengers and drivers will be breathing cleaner air."

MBTA is working cooperatively with EPA to negotiate a resolution to the idling violations. In this regard, the MBTA in June sent out a Special Order to MBTA employees reminding them of anti-idling requirements. In addition, signs will be posted at all MBTA diesel bus facilities reminding the employees to shut down engines when they are not being used.

The inspections are part of a region-wide effort by EPA, in partnership with the Massachusetts

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EPA settlement with Waste Management includes projects to reduce air pollution in Boston and create a park in Chelsea

An East Boston eyesore is getting a much needed cleanup. A 4.5 acre waterfront parcel abutting Chelsea Creek will be the future site of the Condor Street Wild, a parkland the city bought in 1979 that was later discovered to be contaminated. The \$1.2 million project is part of a settlement agreement between the EPA and Waste Management of Massachusetts, Inc., a Boston trash hauler, for Clean Air Act violations in the late 1990s.

According to the civil complaint, between 1997 and 1998, Waste Management was illegally crushing refrigerators and air conditioners in its hydraulic packer trucks, resulting

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Trash hauler agrees to fund environmental projects in Boston and Chelsea

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in the probable release of chlorofluorocarbons and hydrochlorofluorocarbons, both ozone-depleting gases. Waste Management has since changed its procedures by making separate trips to gather the appliances and disposing of them according to proper guidelines.

As part of the proposed consent decree, Waste Management has also agreed to implement a \$1.4 million diesel pollution reduction project in Boston's inner-city neighborhoods, as well as pay a \$775,000 civil penalty.

The diesel pollution reduction project involves retrofitting 150 school buses with pollution control devices as well as providing low-sulfur diesel fuel at the Readville bus depot. The buses will service the inner-city communities of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan where asthma rates are as high as 178 percent above the state average.

Robert W. Varney, regional administrator of EPA's New England office, called the project "a tremendous gain for thousands of Boston schoolchildren. The communities that benefit from this project have some of the highest asthma rates in the state." Since diesel exhaust can trigger asthmatic conditions, officials and locals are hoping the 90 percent reduction in harmful emissions will lower asthma rates in these communities.

The Chelsea Creek community has been advocating for the park project since 1975. The opening of the park in 2003 will provide the first public access point to the creek and much needed green space for the city.

Roxbury task force tackles solid waste problems with best practices strategy

A slew of illegal dumpsters filled with everything from municipal trash to construction waste used to litter the largely vacant land along Robey Street in the Dudley neighborhood of the Roxbury/North Dorchester area of Boston. This site, along with several other illegal trash transfer stations and two legally operated trash transfer stations—Jet-A-Way and Allied Waste Systems, Inc., plagued the neighborhood with their odor, the vermin they attracted and the traffic they created. In the late 1980s, the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, a community-based organization in Roxbury, Mass., worked with the city of Boston to close the Robey Street site, which culminated with the Mayor's office padlocking the street entrance, and the two other illegal trash transfer stations. But community concern about similar problems associated with the two legal trash transfer stations remained.

"In an ideal world we would not have any trash transfer stations in the area," said Trish Settles, the director of community development for DSNI, who is particularly concerned about the location of the two stations on a corridor with other industrial sites that are adjacent to a school, a park and many homes, including a public housing development. "Instead we wanted to come up with a document to share with the operating trash transfer stations to say 'these are our concerns'."

DSNI worked with the Boston Public Health Commission to map areas and operations in the Dudley neighborhood that area residents identified as solid waste problems. Among the complaints:

- Failure to secure permits for outdoor storage of salvageable materials including concrete fines and

recyclable wood and metals

- Failure to secure permits for storage of waste in roll-off containers and trailers
- Failure to secure parking permits for company vehicles
- Airborne dust from unpaved and unswept roads
- Mud tracked on nearby streets
- Facility litter dispersed throughout the neighborhood
- Odor
- Noise from haul trucks and facility machinery
- Traffic on local streets

Two years ago, DSNI convened the Solid Waste Task Force with help from Boston city councilor Chuck Turner and the mayor, who understood the need for improved design and operation of the transfer facilities. The task force has since grown to include representatives from DSNI, the two trash transfer stations, a city councilor's office, neighborhood business, the Department of Public Health, the Inspectional Services Department, the Department of Public Works, Code Enforcement, the Department of Neighborhood Services and individual residents. With funding from the Boston Foundation, the task force worked with New Ecology, Inc. to conduct research on best practices for trash transfer stations to address community concerns.

"Trash transfer stations are willing to do a lot more to make improvements than other businesses because of the nature of what they do," said Settles, who indicated that many of the innovative practices presented in the strategic plan released last May have already been successful in addressing the community's solid waste concerns because of the collaboration among the diverse group of stakeholders on

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Office Notes

New interns help tackle EJ-related work

This summer, members of the EJ Council and the Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (OCRUA) welcomed a diverse group of interns to their ranks, among them:

Yvette Mitchell is co-op student working in OCRUA who is currently pursuing two masters degrees in Civil & Environmental Engineering and Urban Environmental Policy & Planning at Tuft University. Yvette is working on a regional EJ activity inventory, EJ educational guidance and *EJ News*. Yvette has an extensive background and interest in environmental justice issues, and is also working on a thesis about the use of Geographic Information Systems in the Western Shoshone and Southern Paiute communities of Utah and Nevada.



Yvette Mitchell

Nathan Brooks, who interned in OCRUA last year, has returned this summer to work on a joint project with OCRUA and the Office of Environmental Stewardship on the Hazards Analysis in Environmental Justice Communities project in Boston and Cambridge. Specifically, Nathan is compiling geographic and hazardous material use data from facilities that use or produce extremely hazardous substances. Nathan is a senior at Framingham State University where he studies Geography with a concentration in Environmental Studies.

Julianne Pardi joined the OCRUA staff through an Environmental Careers Organization internship, and she is presently familiarizing herself with environmental justice policy and assisting with the production of *EJ News*. Julie is also

planning on finishing her Master's degree in Energy & Environmental Analysis at Boston University next December.

Nick Benjamin is working at both OCRUA and OES through an ECO internship, where he is assisting with the EJ Small Grants review process and the EJ training being rolled out in the region. Nick just finished his first semester at Middlebury College in Vermont where he is studying Environmental Policy and Spanish.



From left: Nate, Nick and Julie at an intern Brown Bag Lunch Series event

David Halbert and **David McBride** most recently joined us as ECO interns, and they are both working on a joint project with OCRUA and the Urban Environmental Program to help revamp the program's website and organize a Regional Listening Session for multiple stakeholders including representatives from local, municipal and state government, nonprofit groups, environmental groups, academia, local businesses and other federal agencies. David Halbert is a senior at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, where he studies English, Public Relations and Broadcast Media. David McBride is sophomore at Morehouse College in Georgia, where he studies Psychology and Political Science.

New publications available

EJ Biennial Report

The "Environmental Justice 2000 Biennial Report: Continuing to Move Towards Collaborative and Constructive Problem-Solving" is now available from EPA. The national report was prepared by the Office of Environmental Justice in Washington D.C., and includes chapters on Environmental Justice at the Federal Level, Addressing Environmental Justice Problems, Public Participation and Training Initiatives, Outreach Initiatives, Assessment Methodologies, Assessment Guidance and Community Assessments, and Targeting, Environmental Health and Exposure Studies.

Copies of the report may be obtained by writing to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Service Center for Environmental Publications, P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH 45242 or calling 513-489-8190, and requesting Report No. EPA/300-R-01-005. You may review it, along with the previously published environmental justice reports, on the website at www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice. The regional office also has a limited number of copies for distribution to EPA staff.

A Citizen's Guide

What is environmental justice? Which agencies are responsible for the key decisions that will affect the environmental risks a community faces? What funding resources are available for community groups? These questions and many more are answered in [A Citizen's Guide to Using Federal Laws to Secure Environmental Justice](#). The guide is a research document produced by the Environmental Law Institute and

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Risk communication research funding available

The U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development's National Center for Environmental Assessment is requesting applications for cooperative research on environmental risk communication and community involvement that will generate insights, methods, tools and models to empower communities to participate more effectively in environmental cleanups, especially dealing with contaminated sediment sites. These cooperative agreement awards will range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 over a period of one to three years, depending on available funding.

Possible topics for research include tools to measure community preferences and summarize complex data, methods to extract and utilize community-based knowledge, methods to assessing impacts on societal or cultural practices, outreach tools for large geographic sites and methods to evaluate the effectiveness of community involvement programs.

Applications must be postmarked or marked received by NCEA personnel by Sept. 19, 2002. Solicitation packages are on the NCEA website at www.epa.gov/ncea and information about the full application process, as well as application forms, are at www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit. Contact David Kelley at Kelley.David@epa.gov or at 202-564-2268 for more information.

Opportunity for recognition

You can now nominate an organization or group of organizations involved in collaborative multi-stakeholder partnerships to address local environmental justice concerns for designation as a Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Revitalization Project. These projects support and encourage better leveraging of existing federal resources to support local efforts to address EJ concerns, support strong potential partnerships and identify "best practices" for effective collaboration among stakeholders working on solutions to EJ concerns.

Selection brings the project national exposure and recognition, provides greater access to resources from various stakeholders and promotes the project as a model for future collaborative partnerships.

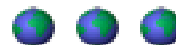
Each project must serve a minority, low-income or tribal community, address one or more EJ concerns and include at least two federal agencies in the mix of partnering stakeholders. Community-based and nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, businesses, faith-based groups and federal, state, local and tribal government agencies are all eligible.

Applications must be postmarked or marked received by EPA personnel by Aug. 16, 2002. Detailed instructions for preparing nominations are available from Delta Valente of the EPA Office of Environmental Justice at 202-564-2592 or valente.delta@epa.gov or from EPA regional EJ coordinators. More information is on the OEJ website at www.epa.gov/compliance/recent/ej.html.

EJ Awards honor local community leaders

Employee receives gold medal

Lois Adams, chief of Pesticides, Toxics and Urban Programs at EPA New England's Office of Ecosystem Protection, has won a national EPA Gold Medal, which is the highest award in the agency. Adams received the award this spring at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., for her outstanding leadership in innovative approaches to community-based environmental protection and Environmental Justice. Adams is a visionary environmental activist who creatively approaches partnerships with community and government stakeholders to address critical environmental concerns in urban areas. Adams developed EPA New England's Urban Environmental Program and was a founding member of the EJ Council at EPA New England. We congratulate Adams on her inspiring work.



Whitman honored

The Children's Allergy, Immunology and Respiratory (AIR) Foundation honored EPA Administrator Christie Todd Whitman with its Gift of Breath Award for raising awareness of the environment as a possible first line of defense against asthma, an illness which affects 15 million Americans and is the leading chronic illness among children. The Children's AIR Foundation presented the annual award during its World Asthma Day event in New York City.

Several EPA programs are directed at benefitting school children and educating parents. The Agency's Tools for Schools program helps schools improve indoor air quality. The Childhood Asthma Goldfish Campaign aims to educate parents about ways they can help prevent their children's asthma attacks. EPA also sponsors an initiative to protect millions of children from the risks of secondhand smoke in homes. Further information on these programs is available at www.epa.gov/children.



Community group recognized with Merit Award

In May, the Hartford Environmental Justice Network received an Environmental Merit Award from EPA New England for its outstanding work to protect public health and the environment. The HEJN was one of 35 individuals, environmental, community, academia and nonprofit organizations, local, state and federal government agencies, and business, industry and professional organizations that received awards. At a Boston ceremony the HEJN was specifically recognized for its dedication to promoting EJ and safeguarding public health, especially through their efforts to combat asthma in Hartford.

HEJN is a chapter of the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice, which includes 24 grassroots organizations and other individuals concerned about environmental degradation in Connecticut. The coalition works to ensure that polluters are held accountable and residents are informed and able to participate in local decision-making.

After learning that 40 percent of the 7,000 Hartford area children participating in an asthma study had the condition, the HEJN discussed the ramifications with community members and lawmakers. As a result, the Hartford City Council declared an asthma emergency in the city that formally recognized the epidemic.

HEJN has demonstrated the power of the community to be stewards of the environment. The HEJN's leadership in bringing environmental justice concerns to the consciousness of area residents and policymakers is an inspiring model for other communities.



Boston Silver line begins operation

On July 20, the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority opened the first phase of the Silver line service, the most advanced Bus Rapid Transit technology in the nation. The Silver line is the newest improvement to the MBTA's service.

The 1720-passenger Silver line buses represent over 20 years of planning and community discussion. The service developed from the need for a more direct connection between the heart of downtown and Boston's southwest neighborhoods.

Developed in three stages, the state-of-the-art transit system will link Dudley Square with Logan Airport and South Station. Phase I, which began operating July 20, involved the widening of Washington Street between Dudley Square and the New England Medical Center. The additional lane will be designated for Silver line buses only, providing quick transportation between stops. Phase II, which is currently under construction and slated to open in

December 2003, will connect South Station to the South Boston Waterfront via a mile-long tunnel. The Silver line service will make stops at the U.S. Courthouse and the World Trade Center before heading to Logan Airport. Slated for completion in mid 2010, Phase III will connect the two previous phases at South Station and Boylston Street area via the preexisting Tremont tunnel.

All aspects of the new service are designed to make commuting quick and enjoyable. Stations are equipped with an Intelligent Transportation System that uses Global Positioning System satellites to track buses en route. Smart kiosks located on the platforms will display up-to-the-minute schedule information as well as provide a countdown time for the next bus. Stations are also equipped with a public address system. The addition of these 60-foot articulated vehicles will not increase noise or air pollution in the service region because the buses will run on compressed natural gas.

The introduction of Boston's fifth rapid transit line is also expected to help revitalize the Washington



Street corridor. Already, according to Joyce Stanley, Executive Director of Dudley Square Main Streets, there has been an estimated \$400 million of development in the neighborhood, including the renovation of 850 housing units.

Revised agreement finalized with MBTA to retrofit 400 buses

On May 16, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs amended a Consent Order signed by the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction in September 2000, in which EOTC committed to retrofitting all remaining in-service diesel buses with emission control equipment by Dec. 31, 2000. The original consent order was amended because the provisions for bus retrofitting did not include equipment specifications or emission standards. The amended order requires EOTC, through the Massachusetts Bay Transport Authority, to:

- Immediately begin fueling all MBTA diesel buses with fuel with a maximum sulfur content of 30 parts per million.
- Retrofit all 400 of the model years 1994 and 1995 Nova buses with Engelhard DPX Diesel Particulate Filters, Johnson Matthey CRT Continuous Regenerating Technology or retrofit equipment demonstrated to reduce particulate emissions by as much or more than those technologies, according to the following schedule: Retrofit 70 buses by Dec. 31, 2002, 110 more by July 1, 2003 and 220 more by July 1, 2004.
- Accelerate the schedule for

upgrading the 1994 and 1995 Nova buses with Detroit Diesel Reliabil Engines by July 1, 2004.

- Replace all 2000 model year 1989 buses in accordance with MBTA's 1998 Bus Fleet Management and Development Plan by Dec. 31, 2004.
- Submit a maintenance plan for emissions reduction equipment and an emissions monitoring plan for its diesel bus fleet by Oct. 31, 2002.

The amended order also authorizes the EOEA to assess statutory penalties of up to \$25,000 per day for violating the above provisions.

Legislative Updates



R.I. to crack down on lead in rental property with new legislation

On May 25, R.I. Governor Lincoln Almond signed the Lead Hazard Mitigation Act of 2002 into law. The law requires landlords who rent housing built before 1978 to meet new maintenance standards to reduce lead poisoning risks. The earlier provisions of the state 1991 Lead Poisoning Prevention Act only became operative after there was a lead poisoning.

Previously, under the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act, all regulatory responsibilities were vested with the R.I. Department of Health (DOH), which concentrated on actual cases of lead poisoning. Under the new lead law, DOH will still address incidences of lead poisoning, but the R.I. Housing Resources Commission (HRC) will be responsible for lead poisoning prevention by establishing maintenance standards and ensuring compliance. The basic standards established under the act will be incorporated into local minimum housing codes.

"Relatively few property owners are negligent," said Roberta Aaronson, executive director of the Childhood Lead Action Project. "The new law targets the worst landlords and beefs up enforcement."

The law toughens the state's authority in addressing blatant negligence—for example, where several children are poisoned by lead at the same address. Under the new lead law, there are standard provisions for issuing second notices of violation, for making information public about high-risk rental housing and for taking enforcement actions through the Attorney General's office. Disregarding the obligation to correct lead hazards and allowing children to repeatedly become lead

poisoned is a felony under the new law.

The earlier standards used by DOH required property owners where children were lead poisoned to meet stringent standards to make the unit lead safe, typically at a cost of between \$7,500 and \$15,000. One goal of the new law is to enable property owners to do maintenance work themselves at a cost of about \$1,000 to meet the HRC's standards, which will be guided by federal standards established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Because such renovations are risky, they should be done when the property is not occupied by children.

"One thing that makes this law remarkable is that it is preventative and proactive," Aaronson said. "Rental properties will be checked before turnover."

The law establishes inspection requirements, including dust testing, which will be required at the turnover

of the unit or once a year, whichever is less frequent. If the unit remains occupied by the same tenants for more than a year, the property owner will be required to do a visual inspection at least once every two years to determine if conditions have deteriorated.

Property owners that comply with the law will be covered for damages caused by lead poisoning under their liability insurance. Property owners that do not comply with the law but have no history of lead poisoning will be able to get insurance through an endorsement. Insurance against accidental poisoning will not be assured for property owners who do not comply with the law and have poisoned children at their premises.

The provisions of the new lead law will be phased in over two years and new obligations will not be effective until July 1, 2004.

Camden case update

On June 24, 2002, the United States Supreme Court decided not to hear *South Camden Citizens in Action v. N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection*, and instead let stand the ruling made by the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The decision stated that as there was a lack of substantiating evidence that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) intentionally discriminated and considered the neighborhood's racial composition in siting a cement plant, and the private group did not have the right to enforce EPA's discriminatory effects

regulations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The citizen's group claimed that the DEP was discriminative in its decision to place the St. Lawrence Cement plant in a predominantly African-American neighborhood where an incinerator, a sewage treatment plant and two Superfund sites are located.

The South Camden citizens group still has three claims, including claims of intentional discrimination, pending against the cement company. A new trial regarding these claims could begin as soon as next summer.



LU cont.

Land use bill amended

On April 25, a bill introduced by U.S. Senator Lincoln Chaffee in May of last year called the Community Character Act was amended by the Senate Committee of Commerce, Science and Transportation. The bill would provide assistance for state and tribal land use planning, to promote improved quality of life, regionalism and sustainable economic development. The bill would direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program of grants for states and tribal governments to promote comprehensive land use planning. For more information visit www.planning.org/legislation/ccafactsheet.htm

Minority health and disparities month proposed

A resolution expressing the sense of the United States Congress that a national minority health and health disparities month should be established was passed by the House of Representatives on April 30 and referred to the Senate. The resolution is intended to promote educational efforts on the health problems currently facing minorities and other populations experiencing disparate health problems. The resolution would encourage federal, state and local government to emphasize the recruitment and retention of qualified individuals from racial, ethnic and gender groups that are currently under represented in health care professions. Lastly the resolution would encourage the president to issue a proclamation recognizing the immediate need to reduce health disparities in the country.



Environmental and civil rights leader passed away at 63

Herb Jackson, later known as Kwaku Zulu Jackson, died on June 25 of complications from diabetes. He was 63. Jackson was a leading advocate and activist in Roxbury, Mass., for civil and human rights, economic empowerment and environmental protection. Jackson's involvement in the environmental movement as it evolved from being led by large environmental organizations—to now including and focusing on grassroots organization and environmental justice—debunks the myth that people of color and low-income citizens have little interest in the issues that may negatively impact their environment, health and quality of life.

Jackson had a strong interest in environmental and quality of life issues in the Roxbury community that he lived and worked so tirelessly in. Between the late 1960s and 1975, he began Urban Environmental Management, one of the first recycling companies in the predominantly minority and low-income community.

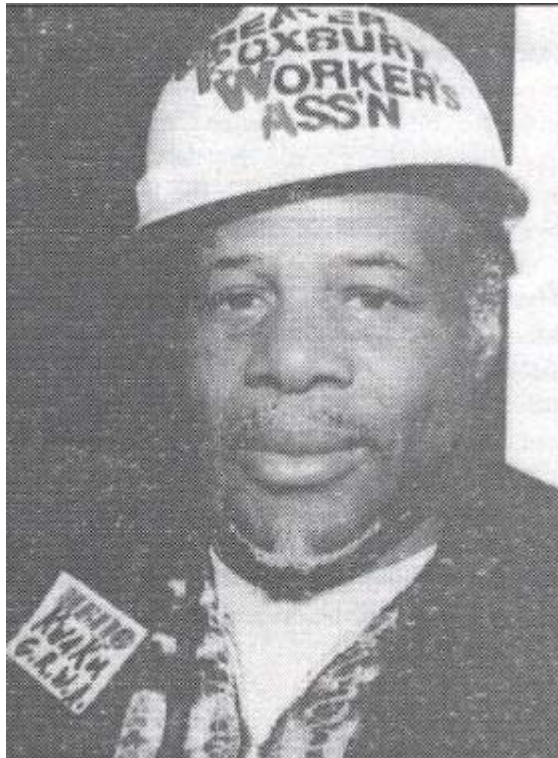
In 1975 Jackson again demonstrated his commitment to the environment and the people of his community when he organized the Roxbury Monitoring Board,

made up of local residents, and worked with youth to clean the major streets along the Blue Hill Avenue corridor in Roxbury, block by block. Through the Roxbury Monitoring Board, Jackson concurrently launched a public education campaign to encourage residents not to litter the streets of Roxbury.

Jackson also worked at the Roxbury Multi-Service Center which helped Roxbury youth secure employment. While working at the center, Jackson spent many years pushing to revitalize the Blue Hill Avenue corridor, and his efforts

finally came to fruition in recent years when the city of Boston made considerable investments in this once depressed area.

Jackson's achievements ensure that future generations and residents residing along Blue Hill Avenue receive an improved environment and quality of life.



This piece was submitted by James M. Younger, Director for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, and James T. Owens, Acting Director of the Office of Administration Resources Management, for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's New England office.



Asthma disparities and triggers explained

To emphasize National Asthma Month, Margaret Reid of the Boston Public Health Commission answered asthma-related questions

As part of National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month, EPA New England hosted two events in May featuring internal and external experts on indoor and outdoor air quality issues.

One of these experts, Margaret Reid of the Boston Public Health Commission, addressed the findings of “The Health of Boston 2001 Report.” According to the report asthma affects Americans of all ages, races and ethnic groups; however, low income and minority populations experience substantially higher rates of hospital admissions, emergency room visits and fatalities due to asthma or respiratory-related diseases. Below Reid shares more answers to questions about asthma disparities and triggers:

Why do health disparities exist for asthma?

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease of the airways, which bring air in and out of the lungs. Those airways are hypersensitive to factors, including the environment. Rising asthma rates are based on an interaction between genetics and the environment. Asthma disproportionately affects low income people and minority populations. The report “Action Against Asthma: A Strategic Plan for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,” describes the factors most probably related to this health disparity, including the role of indoor environments and health care access issues. Follow-up care, access to asthma management information and access to the correct medications are all critical components of asthma care. Studies, including the National Cooperative Inner-City Asthma Study, have demonstrated that low-income urban children are often not receiving this optimal care. Poor housing conditions, including pest infestation, mold and poor ventilation, are

all factors that exacerbate asthma. These are certainly problems in low-income housing.

A study published last winter in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine demonstrated the link between living near a busy street and increased wheezing among children ages four to sixteen. Another recent study, published in the British medical journal, Lancet, related the development of asthma to participating in outdoor sports in heavily air-polluted environments.

Why are children more vulnerable to asthma triggers than adults?

The most rapid increase in asthma cases is among children under five years old, with rates increasing over 160 percent between 1980 and 1994, according to an asthma surveillance study published in Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report in 1998. We should not consider adults invulnerable to asthma—because certainly there are

occupational exposures related to the development of asthma among adults—but children have different anatomy and physiology and different habits than adults that make them more vulnerable to environmental triggers. Children exposed to environmental tobacco smoke are at increased risk for respiratory infections, including pneumonia, ear infections and asthma. Children also spend much of their time indoors, which means that the built environment, which for children is usually home, daycare or school, is critical.

Why is mold a trigger for the development or worsening of respiratory infections, especially asthma?

Mold produces allergens and irritants, two factors which contribute to asthma episodes. Mold spores can be inhaled into the airways. Exposure to molds can cause people to become sensitized or allergic and can trigger asthma episodes. Exposure can even cause problems for people who are not aller-

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gic. Mold can be a problem for people who do not have asthma, as well, through skin irritation and infection.

How and where does mold grow in the home?

Mold needs moisture to grow and a surface to grow on. Where there are leaks, condensation, flooding or chronic dampness or humidity, there may be mold. Mold is common in basements and bathrooms because they are damp. Leaky pipes can lead to mold. A flood which is not dried immediately can lead to mold growth under carpeting, where it is not visible. Some building materials trap moisture, encouraging mold growth. If a building is not properly insulated, condensation can develop where cold outdoor air comes in contact with warm indoor air. This can lead to mold growth.

What steps can homeowners take to safely remove mold in the home?

Two critical tools for identifying mold are the eyes and the nose. Mold often creates a musty odor. Any remediation plan should include eliminating the source of the moisture as part of the plan. If the mold is eliminated, but the moisture source is not, the mold will come back.

Ventilating bathrooms and kitchens, repairing leaks and draining outdoor water away from buildings are some steps to reduce moisture and humidity problems in homes.

Touching mold, breathing it in or getting spores in the eyes could be problematic. There are guidelines for mold remediation and I suggest a homeowner or building manager review them to decide how to proceed. The EPA has two mold reports available: "A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture, and Your Home" and "Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings." Both reports include guidelines based

on the size of the mold problem and extent of the damage. The reports can be accessed online at www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldresources.html.

Besides mold, what other triggers aggravate asthma?

In the built environment, humidity is actually related to the presence of a number of asthma triggers. Dust mites are microscopic pests, which are allergenic and can make asthma worse. They thrive in a warm humid environment, often in fabrics. Pests like cockroaches and rodents, again are allergenic and often found in an urban environment. Pets with fur or feathers can be related to asthma.

Environmental tobacco smoke is related to a number of health concerns in children, including asthma. Smoking outside and away from children and not smoking in the car, can reduce children's exposure. Also, many of our personal care products, like hair sprays and perfumes and many cleaning products produce fumes that are respiratory irritants. Using them in well ventilated areas, not in the presence of a person with asthma, can be helpful. Gas stoves and heating systems should be well maintained and well ventilated or they can produce by-products which are respiratory irritants.

The good news is we know a lot about asthma, what makes it worse and what makes it better. If people can impact their environments to make them healthier for everyone and access high quality health care, medications and equipment, then people with and without asthma ought to be able to live healthier lives.

Other speakers included Harriet Burge of Harvard School of Public Health, Doug Brugge from Tufts Medical School and Patricia Goldman of the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. EPA New England presenters included deputy regional administrator Ira Leighton, Steve Rapp of the air permits program, Michael Kenyon of the air programs branch, Christine Sansevero of the air quality planning program, Eugene Benoit of the indoor air quality Tools for Schools program and Stacey Johnson of the urban environmental program.

Blueprint to end childhood lead poisoning

Boston has taken another major step toward becoming the first city in the nation to eliminate childhood lead poisoning. In May, the Lead Action Collaborative released its report "Blueprint to End Childhood Lead Poisoning in Boston by 2005," a byproduct of last November's Lead Summit, which drew together local, state and federal agencies, as well as citizens and activists. The goals outlined in the blueprint are to:

- Develop a "Lead-Safe Home" campaign to educate the public about the dangers of lead poisoning. The campaign will also develop a "Lead-Safe Home" seal of approval to identify houses that have been tested to be lead-safe.
- Design a database of communities at high-risk for lead exposure through cooperation with local residents and community groups.
- Improve services through collaboration with local health care providers and state agencies for lead-poisoned children and their families by providing access to health care and medical insurance for all children.
- Provide outreach programs to at-risk populations to increase awareness and screening rates.

• Advocate for affordable housing construction and rehabilitation to provide access to lead-safe housing for at-risk populations.

More than 1,300 children in Boston had elevated blood lead levels in 2000, and the Lead Action Collaborative hopes that achieving the blueprint goals will prevent future generations from the same fate.



Site tour completes EJ training:

EPA employees get to know surrounding communities

“Growing up in Chelsea, I never knew we were surrounded by water,” said Gladys Vega, the assistant director of the Chelsea Human Service Collaborative (CHSC), as she began a site tour of the industrial waterfront area in Chelsea and East Boston, Mass., during the most recent EPA New England Fundamentals Training course. Since EPA began offering the training in March, 142 EPA employees and representatives from eight state agencies and community groups have participated in the one-day EJ Awareness course or the longer and more intense EJ Fundamentals course, which includes the site tour.

While the sites of the tours vary, most attendees agree that it is the highlight of the training. Chelsea and East Boston have about 37,000 and 40,000 residents, respectively, and both communities are made up of low to moderate-income and minority residents, with large populations of Latino, Chinese, Bosnian, Somali and Vietnamese residents, many of whom are immigrants.

About 20 EPA New England employees boarded a bus on June 12 and traveled just 10 minutes from their downtown Boston office to explore Chelsea and East Boston. Because of its designation as an industrial port area, a multitude of industries—from oil farms to a 150-ton salt pile—line almost every inch of the Chelsea waterfront.

The tour bus began traveling down Broadway Street, just past Bellingham Square, where the Chelsea Sandwich LLC oil farm is located. Vega and Roseanne Bongiovanni, the executive director of CHSC, explained that in 1997 the company wanted to begin storing asphalt, a much more toxic material, but the Chelsea community succeeded in getting former Governor Paul Cellucci to sign an order prohibiting any further asphalt development in Chelsea.

The bus then wound its way past the Chelsea Yacht Club, the only recreational area along Chelsea Creek, which Vega and Bongiovanni noted was restricted to club members.

Just past the yacht club is Mary O’Malley Park along the Mystic River, which is the only public waterfront park in the community. Earlier Vega had explained that in 1997 the city placed hundreds of large boulders and highway barricades throughout the park in to keep people from playing soccer in the park.

“They assumed that since we have soccer players, we have prostitution and drugs,” said Vega.

CHSC worked with the city and convinced them to remove the boulders.

The lack of open space in the community became starkly apparent as the bus wound its way down Marginal Street past the 150-ton Eastern Mineral Salt Company. According to Bongiovanni, this salt pile supplies 70-80 percent of New England with salt for removing ice from roads. The salt contains anti-caking agents with toxic cyanide, and Bongiovanni mentioned that this was the first time she had seen the entire pile covered with a tarp as required by law—when it is uncovered the salt can blow into the residents just across the street.

Just past the salt pile is an asphalt storage facility predating Cellucci’s order, and across from it is a tannery that made the Toxics Action Center’s Fifth Annual Massachusetts Dirty Dozen Awards, a list of polluted sites that pose the most severe threats to human health and environment which the polluters or government agencies are unwilling to clean up. Residents nominate sites and a committee of environmental professionals, public health experts, and worker health and safety advocates select the award recipients. Boston Hides and Furs received the award for the problems residents reported, including noxious odors, stagnant water, rodents, fleas, flies, and pelts and blood in the streets. Residents also noted that despite past agreements with the tannery to clean its facilities and move its operations on Marginal Street, the company still continues to pollute the neighborhood.

Many airport parking and rental car lots also lined the road that leads from Chelsea to East Boston. Stacey Chacker, director of community building and environment for the East Boston organization Neighborhood of Affordable Housing, said that there are more airport parking lots in Chelsea than East Boston because East Boston residents successfully organized against them. All of the jet fuel for the Boston Logan airport is also stored along the waterfront area between Chelsea and East Boston.

Large pilings, scraps of foam, a life jacket and other scraps litter parts of Chelsea Creek that could be seen from the road between the waterfront facilities and buildings. Towards the end of the tour, as the group headed through East Boston, Chacker shared some success stories. Channel Fish, a large East Boston cat food processing company which used to offend residents with its noxious fumes and an unbearable amount of traffic, has made significant improvements to their operations after listening to community concerns. And a contaminated waterfront plot formerly owned by Boston Sand and Gravel that the city of Boston bought in 1994 is going to be cleaned up and turned into a park as part of a recent settlement between EPA and Waste Management, Inc., a Boston trash hauler (see related story on page 1).

“For everything we told you about, there are another ten problems we do not have time to tell you,” said Bongiovanni.

EPA New England would like to thank Alternatives for Community and Environment for hosting a site tour of the Roxbury community during the April Fundamentals training. Several speakers were also kind enough to share their experiences to secure environmental justice in their communities during the trainings, including Rev. Curtis Dias, of the Concerned Citizens of Freetown group and the Calvary Pentecostal Church and Tennis Lilly, of the Lawrence Grassroots Initiative.

Haven't signed up yet for an EJ training course?

The EJ training, which all EPA New England staff will be required to attend over the next year, is a key component of the region's EJ Action Plan for Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002. Managers have identified staff with a primarily internal focus to receive EJ Awareness training, while staff with a primarily external focus to receive longer, more intense EJ Fundamentals training.

The EJ Awareness course focuses on increasing staff knowledge and understanding of environmental justice and provides staff with tools to identify EJ communities and to enable them to factor EJ into their everyday work. The EJ Fundamentals course explores the origins of the environmental justice movement, perceptions and definitions of environmental justice, the laws pertaining to environmental justice, and provides an overview of Geographic Information Systems and other analytic tools to understand the issue. Skills and learning are reinforced through case studies and opportunities to meet with people addressing environmental justice on a day-to-day basis. The Fundamentals course provides greater depth in exploring issues of environmental justice. Highlights of this workshop



EPA employees take part in mock public participation workshop.

include a site visit and guest speakers which afford participants the opportunity to explore a real community, case or project dealing with environmental justice.

Most of the training sessions are held at EPA New England, 1 Congress Street, in Boston. Some sessions are being held at the EPA's new regional laboratory in Chelmsford, Mass. State staff are invited to participate in all of the training sessions along with EPA staff. EPA will try to honor each reservation for training, but space is limited for each session so reservations are not guaranteed. Watch the EPA New England Center for Learning and Development's Training Calendar each month for detailed environmental justice training schedules.

EJ trainer receives first-ever regional EJ award

On July 8, EPA New England regional administrator Robert W. Varney announced that Veronica Harrington received the region's Environmental Justice Award, the first award of this kind in the region. Harrington received the award for the excellent leadership she displayed as the region's voluntary representative to the Environmental Justice Training Collaborative, a network of representatives from EPA regions, the national EPA Office of Environmental Justice, other federal agencies, state agencies, tribal governments, community and faith-based organizations and academia, dedicated to developing EJ education tools and fostering constructive dialogue around this complex issue. By committing herself to work on the collaborative, Harrington far exceeded her general responsibilities as regional EJ grant program manager. Harrington's tremendous ongoing efforts in the areas of EJ training have furthered the agency's commitment to promoting and supporting environmental justice and the region's goal of institutionalizing EJ activities throughout the office.

Best practices for Roxbury solid waste problems outlined cont.

continued from page 2

operations and have voluntarily implemented many of them to minimize adverse impacts in the neighborhood or to fulfill the requirements of their operating permits. Many of the best practices require the trash transfer stations to operate cleaner and faster to minimize odor, air emissions, noise, windblown litter, vermin, waste fluids and vapors, polluted runoff, mud and traffic.

"Many of the best practices are resource efficient, and our incentive is that there may be a way to be more cost effective too," said Settles.

For example, DSNI has also worked with Tufts University to identify some "eco industrial" principles for trash transfer stations that stress recycling many materials. Some of the best practices are not cost effective for the trash transfer station operators at this time, but may still be put in place if the some funding or low-interest loans can be leveraged. Other best practices identified in the strategy, such as diesel fumes, are difficult for trash transfer station operators to manage because they are generated by delivery trucks that the companies do not own.

Settles said that solid waste problems cannot be solved by the trash transfer station operators alone, and presently DSNI and the task force are looking at ways to reduce waste originating in the community and to stop illegal dumping. Involving the community in solid waste problem solving is an important element of the comprehensive best practices strategy.



Groundwork Providence produces multilingual packets on EJ issues

Earlier this year the nonprofit organization Groundwork Providence was awarded \$10,000 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Small Grants Program to support a community-wide program to educate West End residents in Providence, RI, on the myriad of environmental issues that have plagued the community for years. The purpose of the EJSG program is to provide financial assistance to eligible community groups, including community-based/grassroots organizations, churches and other nonprofit organizations with a focus on community-based issues, and federally recognized tribal governments that are working on or plan to carry out projects to address environmental justice issues.

Groundwork Providence has used the recent grant to focus on the broad issue of environmental justice and has detailed it by creating a series of information packets regarding the eight most prevalent environmental issues, determined by residents' response, that the community is facing. The purpose of these packets is both to educate community members on issues that they face on a daily basis and to promote action against such issues.

Topping the list of environmental problems was rat infestation, an issue often seen in such low income and/or

racially diverse communities as the West End. Other issues covered in the packets were lead contamination (20 percent of children in the West End are exposed to lead), pocket brownfields, converting open space to gardening areas, nutrition, air pollution and asthma, recycling, and solid waste management.

The West End is both a racially diverse and low-income community. More than 50 percent of the inhabitants are Hispanic, and nearly 20 percent are African-American. The average household income in 1990 was more than 30 percent less than the rest of the city (\$19,758 compared to \$28,342).

The information packets on these issues will be published in three languages: English, Spanish and Cambodian. The packets are expected to be completed at the end of July and will be distributed throughout the community at centers of community activity, such as churches, community centers, and at the offices of agencies, such as the West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation. To request a copies of the packets, contact Groundwork Providence by writing to Owen Santos at owen@groundworkprovidence.org or 69 Washington Street, Providence, RI 02903, or by calling 401-351-6440.

Collaboration and Community Health Forum



In May, the South Cove Community Health Center in Boston hosted the Lowell Institute Asian American Forum 2002 on "Collaboration and Community Health." The purpose of the Asian American Forum is to provide and sponsor a series of public lectures and workshops that are pertinent to the local community. The goals of the forum are to provide a setting for community participation, to provide information and outreach to the community about issues and opportunities, to establish a point of contact for disparate community organizations to collaborate toward the improvement of the overall welfare of the Asian community, and to update and help guide policy makers in designing programs that respond to the needs of the Asian American community.

This year's forum was moderated by Albert Yee, M.D., M.P.H., regional health administrator at the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, and focused on collaboration and community health. Whether a government agency, public health office, community organization, or a grassroots coalition, collaboration is a key tool for implementing projects that focus on improving the health of a community.

Penn Loh, executive director of Boston's Alternatives for Community and Environment, spoke about the unique challenges facing Chinatown, the densest neighborhood in Boston. The neighborhood faces significant traffic congestion, pedestrian safety, air quality issues and continued commercial growth. Collaboration among many diverse community groups helped to form the Chinatown/

Health Forum cont.

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Central Artery Task Force which Penn cited as a successful collaboration of community activists, academics and other local partners that helped the neighborhood evaluate the long and short-term impacts from the Big Dig. Collaborating with academia provided technical expertise for reviewing traffic studies, air quality and health impacts, and helped the community convince the state to look at more alternatives in the planning phase of the project.

Loh's message was that collaboration benefits communities by providing a larger base of political power and greater access to expertise and technical resources. Other panelists discussed the benefits of collaboration in the projects and communities they represented, including: Christine Lanoie, director of the Osteoporosis Awareness Program at the Massachusetts Department of



Central artery onramp in Chinatown

Public Health; Sidney Liang, program director of the Lowell Community Health Center; Jeremy Liu, director of community projects at the Asian Community Development Corporation; and Cindy Rizzo, program officer of The Boston Foundation.

For more information on issues facing the Asian community in Boston, contact David Hendrickson, coordinator of the Tufts Chinatown Partnership, at 617-627-3656.

Grants target urban air toxics

The combined \$1.1 million from the EPA's National Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) and the Office of Traffic and Air Quality (OTAQ) will fund 17 urban air toxics assessment and reduction projects nationally, including projects in New Haven, Connecticut and the Merrimack Valley in Massachusetts. The projects are focused on hazardous air pollutants—pollutants known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health and environmental problems. Of special concern is the impact of toxic emissions on minority and low-income communities, which are often located close to industrial and commercial urbanized areas. The money for these urban air toxics/environmental justice-oriented grants was primarily made available by the OAQPS as a part of the Integrated Urban Air Toxics Program.

The OAQPS requested that each EPA regional office submit proposals for local air toxics assessment and/or reduction projects that would be awarded with 2002 fiscal year OAQPS funding. The focus of these grants parallels that of the Integrated Urban Air Toxics Strategy, which presents a broad framework for addressing the disproportionate impact of air toxics from stationary sources, as well as mobile sources across urban areas, especially in those areas known as “hot spots,” and minority and low-income communities in urban areas.

Since the program began in 1999 it has focused primarily on, and been successful in, reducing toxic air pollutant emissions from urban industry and automobiles through regulations, including stricter tailpipe

standards. However, as most of the focus has been directed at large-scale air toxics sources, less progress has been made reducing emissions on the local scale, such as from small businesses. The purpose of the 2002 OAQPS grants is to address these local pollution sources.

Two of the 17 grants awarded will target local air toxics issues in New England. New Haven, CT will receive \$30,000, to identify air toxics risks using the air toxics inventory developed in Phase I of the project (also funded by an EPA grant), and begin reducing emissions. Some proposed means of emissions reductions include promoting diesel fleet and bus improvements and expanding Project AIR (Asthma Improvement Resources).

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, working with existing state and local alliances in the Merrimack Valley, will receive \$70,000 to “address the unusual burden of urban air toxics that affect residents of five demographically diverse communities,” including Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, Andover and North Andover. The Merrimack Valley has long been a steady source of stationary air pollution from the proximity of several regional incinerators and paper, textile and shoe manufacturing plants. The groups involved in the project have proposed to further characterize urban air, transportation and consumer emissions that have been identified as potentially significant and facilitate a process to identify and select one or two of the most significant air toxics issues that affect the Merrimack Valley communities.

Citizen's guide cont.

continued from page 3

supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice.

The guide will be most useful for community residents interested in determining how environmental laws can be used to promote environmental justice in their communities. This is a particularly helpful handbook for those that are not familiar with environmental laws because it explains complex legal verbiage in plain language.

The book is broken down into three chapters: Introduction to Environmental Laws and Environmental Justice, Understanding the Players and the Laws, and Finding and Using the Right Tools in Environmental Laws. A helpful glossary and index also allows the reader to do keyword searches.

The guide addresses how environmental justice relates to the major federal environmental pollution laws regulated by the EPA, covering media including air, water and soil. Environmental laws regulated by other federal, state and local agencies that may be applied in situations of environmental injustice are beyond the scope of the guide.

The environmental statutes addressed in the guide include the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Clean Air Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

An electronic copy of this guide may be obtained free of charge from the Environmental Law Institute's website www.eli.org. The report is also available in hard copy for \$20 by calling 202-939-3800.

Office highlight:

EPA Headquarters requires regions to develop EJ Action Plans

The national EPA Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) is requiring all regional offices to develop EJ action plans for fiscal year 2002-2003. This decision was announced at a national strategic meeting on the EPA environmental justice program that took place in Washington, D.C. in April. EPA New England's Environmental Justice Action Plan for Fiscal Years 2001-2002 served as a model and an impetus for the national office's requirement to prepare EJ action plans across the country. According to OEJ, the purpose of the EJ action plans is to enable the regional and national offices to develop and implement strategies and activities to integrate environmental justice activities into

existing programs.

"In essence, the environmental justice action plan is intended to operationalize the administrator's environmental justice memorandum, dated August 9, 2001, where Christie Whitman categorically stated that '[EPA] has a firm commitment to the issue of environmental justice and its integration into all programs, policies, and activities, consistent with existing environmental laws and their implementing regulations'," said Barry Hill, director of OEJ.

The EJ action plans are due from each regional and national program office to OEJ by Sept. 30, 2002. For more information, please contact Kathy Castagna, EPA New England EJ coordinator, at

RI DEM conducts EJ Brown Bag Lunch series

The RI Department of Environmental Management began an EJ Brown Bag Lunch Series in 2002. This speaker series allows for interaction and dialogue between DEM staff, key activists and government representatives in the EJ field.

Speakers have included: Penn Loh, Director of the Boston-based Alternatives for Community and Environment; Jane Sherman of the Providence Plan; Damian DelGato, executive director of the Providence Urban Land Trust; Veronica

Eady, director of Environmental Justice and Brownfields Programs at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; and Jacquelyn Parnell, case investigator at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Equity Program.

In addition to the EJ Brown Bag Series, DEM is planning EJ tours for their staff. For more information on this series contact Michelle Musselman at 401-222-3434 x7245.



Regional administrator Robert W. Varney is sharing details of EPA's enforcement action with David Noiles, youth supervisor at ACE, and Kristi Rea, team leader of the Urban Environmental Program

MBTA idling violation

continued from page 1

Department of Environmental Protection and the City of Boston, to curb diesel air emissions, particularly in inner city neighborhoods where diesel air pollution and asthma rates are substantially higher than in other parts of Massachusetts.

The NOV announcement comes 2½ months after EPA settled an enforcement case with Waste Management of Massachusetts Inc., with the company agreeing to provide ultra low sulfur diesel and new air filter traps for diesel school buses operated by the Boston public schools. Under the school bus project, beginning this fall, all 200 school buses at the city's Readville bus depot will be fueled with ultra low-sulfur diesel fuel and 150 of these will be fitted with special pollution control devices that reduce diesel emissions by 90 percent. One of the largest school bus retrofit efforts in the nation, the project will eliminate an estimated 33 tons of diesel particulate matter, 140 tons of smog-causing hydrocarbons and 907 tons of carbon monoxide air pollution each year.

EPA is also working aggressively with the six New England states to implement anti-idling programs, with a particular emphasis on school buses. In May, EPA New England and the New England Asthma Regional Council issued idling guidelines for

school bus operators.

Diesel exhaust contains fine particles that can cause lung damage and aggravate respiratory conditions, such as asthma and bronchitis. In New England, diesel engines are the third largest human-made source of fine particles, contributing more than 20 percent of fine particle emissions. Children are more sensitive to air pollution because they breathe 50 percent more air per pound of body weight than adults. Recent studies have found a strong correlation between exposure to diesel exhaust and impaired lung growth in children.

State and federal authorities are stepping up their enforcement of the Massachusetts idling regulation to reduce pollution from diesel exhaust. The Massachusetts anti-idling regulation prohibits the unnecessary operation of the engine of a motor vehicle while the vehicle is stopped for a foreseeable period of time in excess of five minutes. There are three exceptions to the five-minute limit that can apply depending on the circumstances. The regulation is found at 310 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 7.11(1)(b). Penalties for violating this regulation can be as high as \$27,500 per day per violation (\$25,000 if the matter is being enforced by state authorities).

For more information on diesel exhaust and anti-idling guidelines, visit www.epa.gov/ne/eco/diesel.

SEPTEMBER cont.

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8:30am - 5pm

617-969-7177

www.state.ma.us/dep/calendar.htm

September 26-27

Urban & Suburban Watershed Management Workshop.

Burlington, VT

1-800-548-2723

www.asce.org

OCTOBER

October 13

Environmentalism & Social Injustice

Daniel Faber

5 pm

Location: Spontaneous Celebration Center, 45 Danforth Street Jamaica Plain, MA

<http://boston.earthsave.org/events.htm>

October 15-17

EJ Fundamentals Workshop

8:30am - 5pm

Location: EPA New England Office

1 Congress Street Boston, MA

EPA employees use START system; others call 617-918-1703

October 21

Moderate Risk Deleading Training

Various times

Location: Boston Public Health Commission 1010 Massachusetts Ave. 2nd floor Boston, MA

<http://www.state.ma.us/dph/clppp/TRAINPRO.HTM>

NOVEMBER

November 5 and 19

EJ Awareness Training

8:30am - 5pm

Location: EPA New England Office

1 Congress Street Boston, MA

EPA employees use START system; others call 617-918-1703

November 22

Moderate Risk Deleading Training

Various times

Location: Boston Public Health Commission 1010 Massachusetts Ave. 2nd floor Boston, MA

<http://www.state.ma.us/dph/clppp/TRAINPRO.HTM>

Upcoming EJ events

JULY

July 19

Moderate Risk Deleading Training
Various times
Location: Boston Public Health Commission
1010 Massachusetts Ave. 2nd floor
Boston, MA
<http://www.state.ma.us/dph/clppp/TRAINPRO.HTM>

The Food Project Summer Community Lunch
12:30 pm
Location: Baker Bridge Farm
Baker Bridge Street Lincoln, MA
781-259-8621 x16

July 22, and 29

The Food Project Summer Community Lunch
12:30pm
Location: West Cottage Street Food Lot
Dorchester, MA
781-259-8621 x16

July 23

EJ Awareness Training
8:30am - 5pm
Location: EPA New England Office
Congress Street Boston, MA
EPA employees use START system; others call 617- 918-1703

July 26

7th Annual EJ Youth Summit
9:30am - 3:30pm
Location: Curry Student Center,
Northeastern University Boston, MA
www.ace-ej.org/news.html#N0602

July 31

Public Hearing: Metro Boston Smoke-Free
Worksite Regulations Initiative
4 - 6 pm
Cambridge City Council, City Hall
2nd floor, 795 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA
617-665-3812

AUGUST

August 2, 9 and 16

The Food Project Summer Community Lunch
12:30 pm
Location: Baker Bridge Farm
Baker Bridge Street Lincoln, MA
781-259-8621 x16

August 5 and 12

The Food Project Summer Community Lunch
12:30pm
Location: West Cottage Street Food Lot
Dorchester, MA
781-259-8621 x16

August 6 - 10

Boston Total Environmental Education Party
Conference
Location: Park Plaza Hotel Boston, MA
<http://www.naaee.org/html/conferences.html>

August 19

Interfaith Working Group on the Environ-
ment Meeting
5 - 7 pm
Location: TBA
judy1@jcrboston.org
617-457-8670

SEPTEMBER

September 10 and 24

EJ Awareness Training
8:30am - 5pm
Location: EPA New England Office
1 Congress Street Boston, MA
EPA employees use START system;
others call (617) 918-1703

September 18

Moderate Risk Deleading Training
Various times
Location: Boston Public Health Commission
1010 Massachusetts Ave. 2nd floor
Boston, MA
<http://www.state.ma.us/dph/clppp/TRAINPRO.HTM>

September 23

Regional Sustainable Development Forum: A
Closer Examination of Issues. Green Design,
Brownfields Redevelopment: Green Re-Use,
& Smart Growth.
8 am - 6 pm
Location: MIT, Bldg 10, Rm 250, 77
Massachusetts Ave. Cambridge, MA
maddy@mit.edu
617-354-4099

September 25

Creating Healthy Schools in MA. Location:
Wyndham Hotel Westboro, MA

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603-271-2905

Rhode Island

Gerald McAvoy, RI DEM
401-222-6607 X2301

Vermont

Edward Leonard, Vt. DEC Policy and
Regulatory Manager
802-241-3811

Connecticut

Edith Pestana, Ct. DEP, Environmental
Equity Program
860-424-3044

Maine

Brook Barnes, Maine DEP,
Deputy Commissioner
207-287-7887

Massachusetts

Veronica Eady, EOE, director of
EJ & Brownfields programs
617-626-1053

Web Resources:

EPA New England Environmental Justice Program website

<http://www.epa.gov/region1/steward/ejprog/index.html>

National Office of Environmental Justice

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/main/ej/index.html>

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/main/ej/nejac/index.html>

National Office of Civil Rights

<http://www.epa.gov/ocrpage1/aboutocr.htm>